

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration.

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination and search of the subject and for finding allowable subject matter in the present application.

The making FINAL of the Restriction requirement is noted. Non-elected Claims 34-43 are hereby canceled. A divisional application will be filed to Claims 34-43 once the elected Claims are allowed.

All Claims are believed to be in condition for Allowance, and that is so requested.

Claim 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, and 24 have been amended.

Claim 12 has been canceled.

Claims 1, 13, 14, 16, 18, 25, 26, 29-31, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilke et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,755). The Wilke et al reference is drawn to a conveyor belt in which conductive loops are embedded. The conductive loops 4 comprise, for example, galvanized or steel wire or copper wire (column 5, lines 41-44). The conductive loops 4 preferable comprise "merely of one thread and from the end 12 of the conductive loop 4 this thread merges into the covering seam 8 which produces the contact closure of ends 10 and 12 of the conductive loops" (column 5, lines 4-7). Wilke et al teaches forming discrete inductor loops of metal wires in the belt. Wilke et al do not teach or suggest forming a conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber

substantially homogenized in a base resin host. These features are recited in Applicant's claimed invention as recited, for example, in amended independent claims 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A conveying belt device comprising a loop structure of a conductive loaded, resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized within ~~conductive materials in~~ a base resin host wherein said belt or fragments of said belt are detectable by a metal detection
5 device.

Amended, independent claim 18 recites similar limitations with respect to forming a conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host. Therefore features of Applicant's claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Wilke et al. Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 18 are allowable, and the dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter and should likewise be allowable. If a rejection is maintained, Applicant respectfully requests a showing from the Examiner that Wilke et al teach all the features of Applicant's claimed invention and, in particular, forming the conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host.

Claims 2-4, 7, 19, 20, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilke et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,755) in view of McKaveney (U.S. Patent No. 4,197,218). In regards to Claims 2-4, 7, 19, 20, and 33, Applicant references the relevant remarks above. The McKaveney reference is drawn to forming electrically conductive articles comprising a non-conductive matrix containing electrically

conductive dispersion of finely divided ferroalloy, silicon alloy, or mixtures thereof.

McKaveney does not teach or suggest using micron conductive fiber nor forming a conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host.

Therefore features of Applicant's claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Wilke et al in view of McKaveney . Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 18 are allowable, and the dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter and should likewise be allowable. If a rejection is maintained, Applicant respectfully requests a showing from the Examiner that Wilke et al in view of McKaveney teach all the features of Applicant's claimed invention and, in particular, forming the conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host. If a rejection is maintained, Applicant respectfully requests a showing from the Examiner that Wilke et al in view of McKaveney teach all the features of Applicant's claimed invention and, in particular, forming the conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host.

Claims 9-13, 22, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilke et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,755) in view of Kanno (U.S. Patent No. 4,538,898). In regards to Claims 9-13, 22, 23, and 24, Applicant references the relevant remarks above. The Kanno reference is drawn to a developing device for use in electrostatic latent imaging. Kanno teaches forming a developing device that prevents deposition of toner particles 6 on the back side of a pressure plate 4 (column 5, lines 40-45). In specific reference to Fig. 26 and Columns 13, line 52 through

Column 14, line 6, Kanno teaches forming an epoxy resin layer onto a stainless steel cylinder 3a. The epoxy resin layer is ground down to form a dielectric layer 3b. An epoxy adhesive is then applied to the dielectric layer 3b. Conductive fibers 33 are then electrostatically planted into the adhesive. The conductive fibers 33 have a length of between 0.5 mm and 2.0 mm. The resulting structure is such that the plurality of conductive fibers 33 are planted in the dielectric layer 3b and are electrically isolated from one another. Applicant notes that Kanno makes no reference to the diameters of the conductive fiber 33. Rather, in Column 14, lines 3-6, Kanno refers to the average diameter of the toner particles 6 – not the conductive fiber 33. In regards to the above, Kanno does not teach or suggest conductive fiber substantially homogenized within a resin-based material as is taught in Applicant's claimed invention. Rather, Kanno teaches planting individual fibers 33 into an epoxy adhesive overlying an epoxy resin and carefully spacing the fibers 33 such that fibers do not touch one another (are electrically isolated). No reference to a diameter of the fiber 33 is given. Therefore, Kanno does not teach micron conductive fiber. Therefore features of Applicant's claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Wilke et al in view of Kanno.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 18 are allowable, and the dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter and should likewise be allowable. If a rejection is maintained, Applicant respectfully requests a showing from the Examiner that Wilke et al in view of Kanno teach all the features of Applicant's claimed invention and, in particular, forming the conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host. If a rejection is maintained, Applicant respectfully requests a showing from the Examiner

that Wilke et al in view of Kanno teach all the features of Applicant's claimed invention and, in particular, forming the conveying belt of conductive loaded resin-based material comprising micron conductive fiber substantially homogenized in a base resin host.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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